details thereof and by which time it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Planning and Development of an area and allocation of funds for the purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Planning Commission have not identified any area as backward per se. However, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments, including Himachal Pradesh, in the development of backward districts through appropriate weightage for backwardness in the formula used for distribution of Normal Central Assistance. Further, Special Central Assistance is allocated under Special Area Programmes and various poverty alleviation schemes.

Objective and Structure of Border Area Development Programme

2155. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of main objective and structure of Border Area Development Programme;

(b) the details of specific State-wise location including Gujarat where border programmes are to be implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of the projects implemented during Eighth Five Year Plan period in the North-Western areas; and

(d) the details of allocation made to implement the projects in the said area during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The main objective of the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) is to meet the special needs of the people living in remote, inaccessible areas situated near the border. Schemes which address problems such as inadequacies related to provision of essential needs, strengthening of the social infrastructure, filling up of critical gaps in the road network etc. may be taken up under the programme. BADP is a 100% centrally funded area programme.

(b) The programme is in operation in the border blocks of states which border Pakistan, Bangladesh and Myanmar, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura and West Bengal.

(c) The decisions regarding the schemes/ projects to be undertaken in each State are taken by the State level Screening Committees. After the programme was revamped in 1993-94 the North-Western States of Gujarat and Rajasthan were allocated Rs. 32.07 crore and Rs. 322.76 crore respectively, during the Eighth Plan, and the schemes undertaken relate to education, health, water supply, roads, security etc.

(d) In the current year the Governments of Gujarat and Rajasthan have been allocated Rs. 8.88 crore and Rs. 56.52 crore respectively under BADP.

Complaints regarding implmentation of MPLADs Projects

2156. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that number of complaints are pouring in from Members of Parliament against malfunctioning particularly the non-implementation of projects under MPLAD Scheme; if so, whether the Ministry have any team of experts to examine the complaints;

(b) whether Government propose to raise the fund from one crore to two crores under the scheme if so, by when and whether the same has been notified; and

(c) whether Government have reviewed the scheme; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTRY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Some complaints from MPs against malfunctioning and slow progress have been received. In such case the matter is taken up with the concerned Collector\State Government and necessary instructions are issued.

(b) The issue of enhancement of MPLAD Scheme funds from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 2 crores per MP is under consideration.

(c) The review of the Scheme is a continuous process. As and when the suggestions from MPs or others are received for bringing improvements, the matter is considered for taking necessary decision for bringing improvements in the scheme.

Shortage of power and its effect on growth rate

2157. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of power affects the growth rate of all key indicators and thus the G.D.P.; and

(b) whether the all India shortage is 18%, what is the impact of this on G.D.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The power supply position at the end of Annual Plan 1997-98 indicates 8.1% shortage in energy and 11.3% shortage in peak demand at all India level.

Electricity is one of the key inputs for the growth of industrial and agricultural production which are major components of GDP growth. The growth of economy, expressed as percentage annual increase in GDP, calls for sustained growth of power sector. The growth rate of demand for power in developing countries is generally higher than that of GDP. However, it is difficult to establish any firm empirical relationship between the shortage in power availability and the level of GDP.

Plan outlay for the States

2158. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of plan outlay finalised for 1998-98 by the Planning Commission, Statewise;

(b) how this year's plan outlay compares with that of 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(c) the per capita Central Assistance to the States for the last three years; and

(d) the details of steps taken by the States to increase State's resources for financing their annual plan outlays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) The statement indicating Statewise Plan Outlays for 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 and per capita Net Normal Central Assistance for these three years are given in Statement—I and Statement—II respectively. (*See* below)

(d) Planning Commission has been impressing upon the States to generate higher level of own resources through increase in tax and non-tax revenues and also by containing non-plan revenue expenditure.